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February 25, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1722

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/680,220; Filed: October 8, 2003
For: **Injection Molding Apparatus and Linear Actuator with Position Sensor Therefor**
Inventors: Schunck *et al.*
Our Ref: 2107.0480000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. One (1) page of PTO/SB/08a citing 18 documents;
3. One (1) page of PTO/SB/08b citing one (1) document;
4. Copies of the foreign documents as listed on PTO/SB/08a (A13-A18);
5. Copy of the website printout as listed on PTO/SB/08b (A19); and
6. One (1) return postcard.

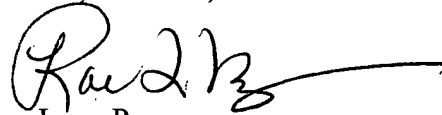
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 25, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rae Lynn", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rae Lynn Prengaman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

TUM/RLP/lvt
Enclosures

232982_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Schunck *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/680,220

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: **Injection Molding Apparatus and
Linear Actuator with Position
Sensor Therefor**

Confirmation No.: 4176

Art Unit: 1722

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 2107.0480000

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:

- ☒ 7. Copies of the documents A13 - A18 and A19 are submitted herewith.

- ☒ 8. Copies of documents A1 - A12 are not provided herewith, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and each reference is a U.S. Patent document, in accordance with the PTO Notice 1276 Off. Gaz. Pat. Off. 55, published August 5, 2003.

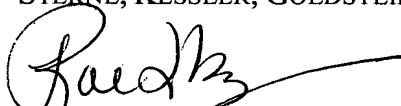
☐ 9. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed _____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Rae Lynn Prengaman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

Date: 2/25/04

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/680,220
Filing Date	October 8, 2003
First Named Inventor	Ralf Schunck
Art Unit	1722
Examiner Name	To be determined
Attorney Docket Number	2107.0480000

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (If Known)			
	A1	US-5,055,026	10/08/1991	Gordon	
	A2	US-5,149,547	09/22/1992	Gill	
	A3	US-5,531,581	07/02/1996	Donnell, Jr.	
	A4	US-5,556,582	09/17/1996	Kazmer	
	A5	US-6,001,296	12/14/1999	Roddenburgh et al.	
	A6	US-6,129,541	10/10/2000	Takada	
	A7	US-6,179,604	01/30/2001	Takada	
	A8	US-6,294,122	09/25/2001	Moss et al.	
	A9	US-2002/0094355	07/18/2002	Sattler et al.	
	A10	US-2002/0106419	08/08/2002	Sattler et al.	
	A11	US-2002/0114860	08/22/2002	Sattler et al.	
	A12	US-2003/0072833	04/17/2003	Olaru	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (in known)				
	A13	DE-3833220 C2	04/05/1990	Agfa Gevaert AG		
	A14	EP-01223018 A1	07/17/2002	Synventive Molding Solutions B.V.		
	A15	EP-1223019 A1	07/17/2002	Synventive Molding Solutions B.V.		
	A16	EP-1223020 A1	07/17/2002	Synventive Molding Solutions B.V.		
	A17	WO 02/066224 A1	08/29/2002	Conix Corporation		
	A18	WO-03/031146 A1	04/17/03	Mold Masters Ltd.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M PEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete If Known		
			Application Number	10/680,220	
			Filing Date	October 8, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Ralf Schunck	
			Art Unit	1722	
			Examiner Name	To be determined	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	2107.0480000

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	A19	Web page from Dwyer website directed toward a "Valve Position Sensor" printed 2/23/2004 < http://www.dwyer-inst.com/htdocs/valves/qsseriesvps.cfm > (2003).	

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